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sidering in each case the various classes, families and usually some particular species of important genera as an example. By giving much more than the usual amount of space to the consideration of the economic phases of the subject, however, Professor Osborn has ignored all precedent. But in doing so he has done no violence to zoology as a science.

On the contrary, a careful inspection of the volume bears out the author's prefatory contention that a large degree of interest is awakened by revealing the fact of importance to human life. For example, the group of protozoans are, as a rule, uninteresting to the average student of zoology who sees one or two under a microscope and knows little else about them. The same student may know something more or less vague about bacteria, but rarely does the usual text make him clearly acquainted with the fact that in this group of protozoans are to be found the active germs of malaria, yellow fever, the Texas fever of cattle and the like, with the interesting account of their life cycles. Similarly, under the worms, though there is no sacrificing of the important facts of morphology, the keenest kind of interest is aroused by taking the liver fluke of the sheep as an example of the economic importance of the flat-worm group. Somewhat over four full pages devoted to this one topic does more to fasten the important facts in mind than could be done in any other way.

These typical examples give an idea of the method of treatment followed throughout the book; a method of treatment which must inevitably prove an effective stimulus to the student beginning the study of zoology. Here the study of zoology is made not merely a mass of scientific facts of varying interest, but is as it should be, a study of the animal kingdom made fascinating by the many vital relations existing between the various forms of life.

Both for the student and for the average individual who desires to know something about the general principles of the subject, the book unquestionably serves a valuable purpose.

WALTER S. TOWER.

University of Pennsylvania.

Ross, E. A. *Social Psychology.* Pp. xvi, 372. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1908.

Professor Ross is always interesting and forceful. His latest book, though written far too largely with scissors and a paste pot, is no exception to the rule. A first attempt to formulate laws of social psychology is necessarily a difficult task, as the author suggests. If some of his generalizations are fairly obvious, and some others are open to serious question, nothing could be more admirable than the spirit in which they are propounded, and the frankness with which criticism is invited.

The theory of suggestibility, the mind of the crowd and that of the mob, the influence of custom and conventionality, with the laws that govern their spread and force, the role of conflict and discussion and the formation of public opinion, all come in for consideration. Incidentally there are many

keen criticisms of American institutions and habits of thought. Most interesting and suggestive is the analysis of the psychological conditions of social progress. As is to be expected the emphasis is laid rather on the radical than on the conservative tendencies in thought. The wholesome faith in democracy that runs through the work is a refreshing contrast to much current writing. At every turn the book shows the influence of Trade, but it is far from being a mere rehash of his ideas.

It taxes the reader's patience to ask him to wade through nine pages of quotations in an eighteen page chapter, or eight and a half quoted pages out of thirteen, as in a second chapter picked at random. Most of Professor Ross' quotations are from sources readily accessible, and we cannot help thinking that his book would have gained rather than lost by being limited to a third of its present compass, and thus presenting a terse discussion of its author's ideas couched in his own vigorous English, instead of being, as at present, a series of apparently more or less disjointed propositions, strung together with running commentary, and interlarded with endless quotations. But the fault of presentation will not blind the thoughtful reader to the real interest and value of the work, which is full of thought-provoking ideas. It ought to have a wide general circulation, and it will also prove useful in college classes.

HENRY R. MUSSEY.

University of Pennsylvania.

Royce, Josiah. *Race Questions and other American Problems.* Pp. 287.
Price, \$1.25. New York: Macmillan Company, 1908.

The five chapters of this book are really a compilation of some public addresses of the author and are therefore somewhat popular in their form of presentation. The discussion of the race question is not only frank and unprejudiced, but sets forth plainly the present limitations of our racial psychology and the consequent folly of the frequent snap-shot conclusions concerning this question drawn by inferior and dogmatic writers. The relative inferiority of certain races has not been measured and is an unknown quantity; consequently our judgments must not be too hasty. In Jamaica the race problem has been largely solved by means of administration.

The second address urges the value and importance of "provincialism," the term being used in a broad sense, including the tendency of a unified locality to possess its own customs and ideals and to cherish its traditions and aspirations; the term also includes the aggregate of these customs and ideals. The author shows what evils may thus be corrected and in what way good will be conserved and generalized. In his discussion of the "Limitations of the Thoughtful Public" the nature of American idealism is analyzed. This is followed by constructive criticism aiming to make our idealism more intelligent and effective.

The chapter dealing with the relations of climate to civilization graphically relates the psychological effects of the physical aspects of nature as illustrated in the mental attitude of the Californian. The last lecture which